

REMARKS

Claims 6 to 12, which were restricted out of parent Application No. 09/678,024, have been re-presented for an action on the merits..

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 5,557,310
U.S. Patent 5,589,862
U.S. Patent 5,619,237
U.S. Patent 5,742,310
U.S. Published Application No. 2001/0045977
U.S. Published Application No. 2002/0175977
Japan 8-058107
Japan 8-224883
Japan 8-276601
Japan 10-296993

These documents were cited in prior parent Application No. 09/678,024, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these documents. See MPEP § 609. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of the attached form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to
be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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